10th August 1956]

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : May I know the recommendations made by the Cabinet Sub-Committee?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : A separate question may be put.

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : Does one of the recommendations relate to the wholesale scrapping of prohibition?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : No, Sir.

Tax on motor vehicles

* 35 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the State Government received any communication from the Centre in the months of March and April 1956 regarding the fixing of a ceiling on tax on motor vehicles; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : (*a*) Yes, Sir. In April 1956, the Government of India forwarded a copy of the conclusions reached at the last meeting of the Transport Advisory Council including that on fixation of ceilings on motor vehicles tax.

(*b*) The Transport Advisory Council decided to defer a decision on the subject; and this conclusion has been ratified by this Government.

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : As the percentage of motor vehicles tax is the highest in our State, may I know whether it will be reduced so as to be on a par with the tax levied in other States?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : As the question has been deferred, I do not think that I can commit myself.

SRI K. P. GOPALAN : In view of the fact that the motor vehicles tax in our State is the highest as compared to other States, many motor owners have been ruined. So, will the Government be pleased to examine the matter and come to a decision soon?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : As I said, the whole matter has been deferred and when the question is taken up again, the suggestion of the hon. Member will be examined.

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Is it not a fact that in spite of the heavy tax, motor operators are making tons of money?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : May be so, Sir.

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : Will the Government earmark the extra collection of tax that is over and above the average at the All-India level for some kind of special amenities to motor workers?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : That question does not arise now.